

Shoshone Episcopal Mission
Church of the Redeemer
Three miles southwest of Fort Washakie on
Moccasin Lake Road
Wind River Indian Reservation
Fort Washakie Vicinity
Fremont County
Wyoming

HABS No. WYO-54C

HABS
WYO,
7-FOWA.V,
2C-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20005

SHOSHONE EPISCOPAL MISSION
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMERHABS
WYO,
7-FOWA.V,
2C-

Location: Three miles southwest of Fort Washakie on Moccasin Lake Road, Wind River Indian Reservation, Fort Washakie, Fremont County, Wyoming. Original location was at Wind River, 1 1/2 miles east of present site. Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: (USGS Wind River Quadrangle Map) 12.670280.4761100.

Present Owner: Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming, 310 University Avenue, Laramie, Wyoming.

Present Use: Funeral chapel.

Statement of Significance: This simple frame church built in 1885 by Reverend John Roberts, is the oldest building now located at the Shoshone Episcopal Mission Complex. It was moved there in 1960 from Wind River, the original mission seat, and is used primarily for funerals and special rites.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Ca. 1885.
2. Architect: Built and probably designed by Reverend John Roberts.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure: See Part I. B., Shoshone Episcopal Mission (HABS No. WYO-54).

When Reverend John Roberts arrived in the Wyoming Territory in 1883, the seat of the Shoshone Episcopal Mission was at the Wind River Indian Agency. He built the Church of the Redeemer to serve his Indian congregation at Wind River in 1885, several years before the mission boarding school was founded. After the U. S. Army withdrew from Fort Washakie in 1909, the Shoshone Episcopal Mission moved with the Indian Agency to the Fort site. The Church of the Redeemer was moved 1 1/2 miles west to its new location opposite the Roberts Residence and Mission Boarding School (WYO-54A) in 1960 and the modern narthex was added.

SHOSHONE EPISCOPAL MISSION
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
HABS No. WYO-54C (Page 2)

In keeping with the Shoshone congregation's deep feeling for the importance of special rites and ceremonies, the Church of the Redeemer is now used for such occasions as baptisms, confirmations, and particularly funerals. The Shoshone funeral includes a wake the night before the burial, as well as funeral feasts before and after the burial.

- C. Sources of Information: See Part I. C., Shoshone Episcopal Mission (HABS No. WYO-54).

Prepared by John Paige
Architectural Historian
National Park Service
Summer, 1973
and Candace Reed
Architectural Historian
National Park Service
Spring, 1977

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION - THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Wooden frame structure, painted white and crowned by a small wooden bell cot.

2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: About 24' (three-bay front) x 40', one story.
2. Foundations: Poured concrete.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Clapboards painted white.
4. Structural system, framing: Wooden frame.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Modern double door, facing west.
 - b. Windows: Six-over-six-light double-hung windows.

SHOSHONE EPISCOPAL MISSION
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
HABS No. WYO-54C (Page 3)

6. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Gable roof. The roof over the main body of the church is covered with wooden shingles. The narthex has a lower gable which is covered with asphalt shingles.
- b. Towers: A simple square bell cot with clapboarded base is capped by a pyramidal roof and surmounted by a simple wooden Latin Cross. The bell cot is located at the western end of main roof.

C. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Originally built at Wind River. The Church of the Redeemer was moved in 1960 to its present location facing East, opposite and about 120' west of the Mission Boarding School.

Prepared by Candace Reed
Architectural Historian
National Park Service
Spring, 1977

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were made during the 1973 Wyoming Project undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the Wyoming Recreation Commission. During the project, records were made on twenty-eight (28) individual subjects and six (6) historic areas.

This project was under the general supervision of John Poppeliers, chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Project Supervisor was Professor J. William Rudd, Architect, of the University of Cincinnati. Project Historian was John Paige, Oklahoma State University. The measured drawings were prepared by John Uhler, University of California at Berkeley, Architect; and Student Assistant Architects Richard Duflocq, University of Cincinnati, Clayton Fraser, University of Tennessee, and Richard Wyatt, California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo. Jack E. Boucher, HABS staff photographer, provided the photographic record. This report was edited for HABS in 1977 by Candace Reed.